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PRESS RELEASE-For Immediate Release

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Twin Falls County Resident Tests Positive for West Nile Virus

TWIN FALLS- The first probable human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) in Twin Falls County has been reported. Prompting health officials to remind Idaho residents to “Fight the Bite” of mosquitoes. The adult male, in his sixties, is recovering and was not hospitalized. This is the first reported case in south central Idaho.

Four out of five people infected with West Nile do not show symptoms. However, people with symptoms may experience fever, headaches, body aches, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, eye pain and sometimes swollen lymph glands or a skin rash. Symptoms typically occur 3 to 14 days after the bite of an infected mosquito. More severe infections may involve the central nervous system.

Public Health officials continue to remind individuals to take personal responsibility to protect themselves and their families from mosquito bites. Remember to:

DRAIN any standing water on your property that may produce mosquitoes.

DAWN and **DUSK** are times for people to avoid the outdoors.

DRESS appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outdoors.

DEFEND yourself against mosquitoes by using an insect repellent (follow label directions).

DOOR and window screens should be in good condition to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.

If a person is experiencing symptoms of West Nile, they should contact their local health care provider. Individuals may also obtain information by visiting www.phd5.idaho.gov or www.westnile.idaho.gov.

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